

The 2010 Goal

By the year 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

The Nation's Report Card

All data reported from National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP)

4th Grade Reading

SC's rank (41st) is determined in a comparison of 2005 average scale scores among all 50 states.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide scores on the grade 4 reading assessment, given in 2003 and 2005. SC's average scale score dropped 2 points from 2003 to 2005.

8th Grade Reading

SC's rank (39th) is determined in a comparison of 2005 average scale scores among all 50 states.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide scores on the grade 8 reading assessment, given in 2003 and 2005. SC's average scale score dropped 1 point from 2003 to 2005.

4th Grade Math

SC's rank (28th) is determined in a comparison 2005 average scale scores among all 50 states.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide scores on the grade 4 math assessment, given in 2000 and 2005. SC's average scale score increased 18 points from 2000 to 2005, the second largest jump nationwide. Ten states did not report results for the grade 4 math assessment in 2000 so the rate of improvement could not be calculated.

8th Grade Math

SC's rank (21st) is determined in a comparison 2005 average scale scores among all 50 states.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide scores on the grade 8 math assessment, given in 2000 and 2005. SC's average scale score increased 16 points from 2000 to 2005, the largest increase in the nation. Eleven states did not report results for the grade 8 math assessment in 2000 so the rate of improvement could not be calculated.

4th Grade Science

SC's rank (33rd) is determined in a comparison 2005 average scale scores among all 50 states. Seven states did not report scores for the 2005 4th grade science assessment.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide scores on the grade 4 science assessment, given in 2000 and 2005. SC's average scale score increased 8 points from 2000 to 2005, the largest increase nationwide. Fifteen states either did not report results for the grade 4 science assessment in 2000 or 2005, so the rate of improvement could not be calculated for those states.

8th Grade Science

SC's rank (30th) is determined in a comparison 2005 average scale scores among all 50 states. Seven states did not report scores for the 2005 8th grade science assessment.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide scores on the grade 8 science assessment, given in 2000 and 2005. SC's average scale score increased 5 points from 2000 to 2005, the third largest increase in the nation. Fifteen states either did not report results for the grade 8 science assessment in 2000 or 2005, so the rate of improvement could not be calculated for those states.

On-time graduation rate

74.3% as calculated by the SDE and reported on the 2006 school and district report cards, released November 2006.

State calculations vary; therefore comparison data are unavailable.

SAT

SC's rank (49th) is determined in a comparison of 2006 average composite scores (critical reading plus math sections) among all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The average composite score for SC students in 2006 was 986. The College Board reports that 62 percent of SC high school graduates took the SAT.

Between 2005 and 2006, South Carolina's SAT score decreased by 7 points. However, South Carolina's five-year change, from 2001 to 2006, reflects a gain of 11 points. South Carolina's ten-year change, from 1996 to 2006, reflects a gain of 31 points.

ACT

SC's rank (49th) is determined in a comparison of 2006 average composite scores among all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The average composite score for SC students in 2006 was 19.5, out of a possible 36 points. The ACT reports that 39 percent of SC high school graduates took the ACT.

Advanced Placement – Participation

SC's participation rank (18th) was determined in a comparison of the percent of 2005 high school graduates who took an AP exam at any point during high school, as reported by the College Board. SC was compared to all 50 states and the District of Columbia. In 2005, 21.6 percent of those students in SC took an AP exam in high school.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide participation rates, between 2000 and 2005. Between 2000 and 2005, SC's rate of participation increased 3.9 percentage points.

Advanced Placement – Passage

SC's rank (20th) was determined in a comparison of the percent of students in the graduating class of 2005 who scored a 3 or higher on an AP exam at any point during their classroom years. In 2005, 12.5 percent of graduates in SC scored a 3 or higher on an AP exam in 2005.

The rate of improvement was determined in a comparison of nationwide passage rates, between 2000 and 2005. Between those years, SC's rate of passage increased 2.6 percentage points.

Achievement Gap – PACT

All PACT data reported by the State Dept. of Education. The gap is based upon differences in the percentage of students scoring Proficient or Advanced in ELA and Math within two student groups from 2000 to 2006. The gap in Science and Social Studies measures the gap between 2003, the first year data was available in these subjects, and 2006.

Achievement Gap – AP Performance

Performance data measures the percentage point gap that exists between the passage rates (score of 3 or higher) of two student groups (high school graduates) between 1997 and 2006. AP data reported by the College Board.

Achievement Gap – AP Participation

Participation data measures the percentage point gap existing between the percentage of AP test takers in different demographic groups (high school graduates) in 1997 and in 2006. AP data reported by the College Board.

Achievement Gap – SAT and ACT

Reported data show the gap in the average composite score of the SAT (2002-2006) and the ACT (2002-2006). SAT data reported by the College Board. ACT data reported by the ACT.

NAEP: <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/>

On-time graduation rate: <http://ed.sc.gov/topics/researchandstats/schoolreportcard/2006/default.cfm>

SAT: http://www.collegeboard.com/about/news_info/cbsenior/yr2006/links.html

ACT: <http://www.act.org/aap/>

Advanced Placement data: http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/about/news_info/ap/2006/2006_ap-report-nation.pdf

PACT data provided by the SC Dept. of Education, compiled by the EOC.

Note to readers: In previous years, the EOC has reported the annual dropout rate, the percentage of students with disabilities who graduate, a statement regarding the percentage of schools in freedom from drugs, weapons, violence, and teacher victimization. Valid and reliable data to report comparisons among schools or states are unavailable; therefore, the EOC determined that these measures either did not have a national measure to properly be compared to or they could not be communicated with understanding.